

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

2022 Reporting Week 52: December 25 — December 31



This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

COVID-19 & ILI Trends

Influenza-like illness (ILI) in Okaloosa once again increased for Week 52 (current level: 6.66%; normal average: 3.0%) and continues to remain elevated. Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

COVID-19 levels have also continued to increase for Okaloosa. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level:** Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Get tested if you have symptoms. People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

MPOX

The CDC urges healthcare providers to be vigilant for patients presenting to your facility with a [characteristic mpox rash](#), which can resemble and coexist with sexually transmitted infections (STIs). It is important to become familiar with [identification](#) and be prepared for [specimen collection](#). [mpox testing is available through commercial laboratories](#). Approval for testing is **NOT** required from the Department of Health (DOH) if testing through a commercial laboratory.

If **UNINSURED** patients need mpox testing, please contact DOH-Okaloosa at 850-833-9065 for consultation. The state laboratory will receive specimens for uninsured patients that meet specific criteria and are approved for testing by the DOH. Approval for testing is **required** from the DOH if testing through the state laboratory and is based on clinical presentation, exposure history, and timeline.

Contact Us:

**Florida Department of Health
in Okaloosa County**

Epidemiology Section

**24/7 Disease Reporting:
850-833-9065**

Confidential Fax:

850-833-7577

okaloosaepi@flhealth.gov

COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 52 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
MEDIUM	16.3	3.1%

PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: LOW

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

Week 52 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
HIGH	96.3	17.5%

PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH

Low	<10	<5.0%
Moderate	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
High	>100	>10.0%

Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 52: December 25 - December 31

COVID-19 IN OKALOOSA, CASES vs. VACCINATION

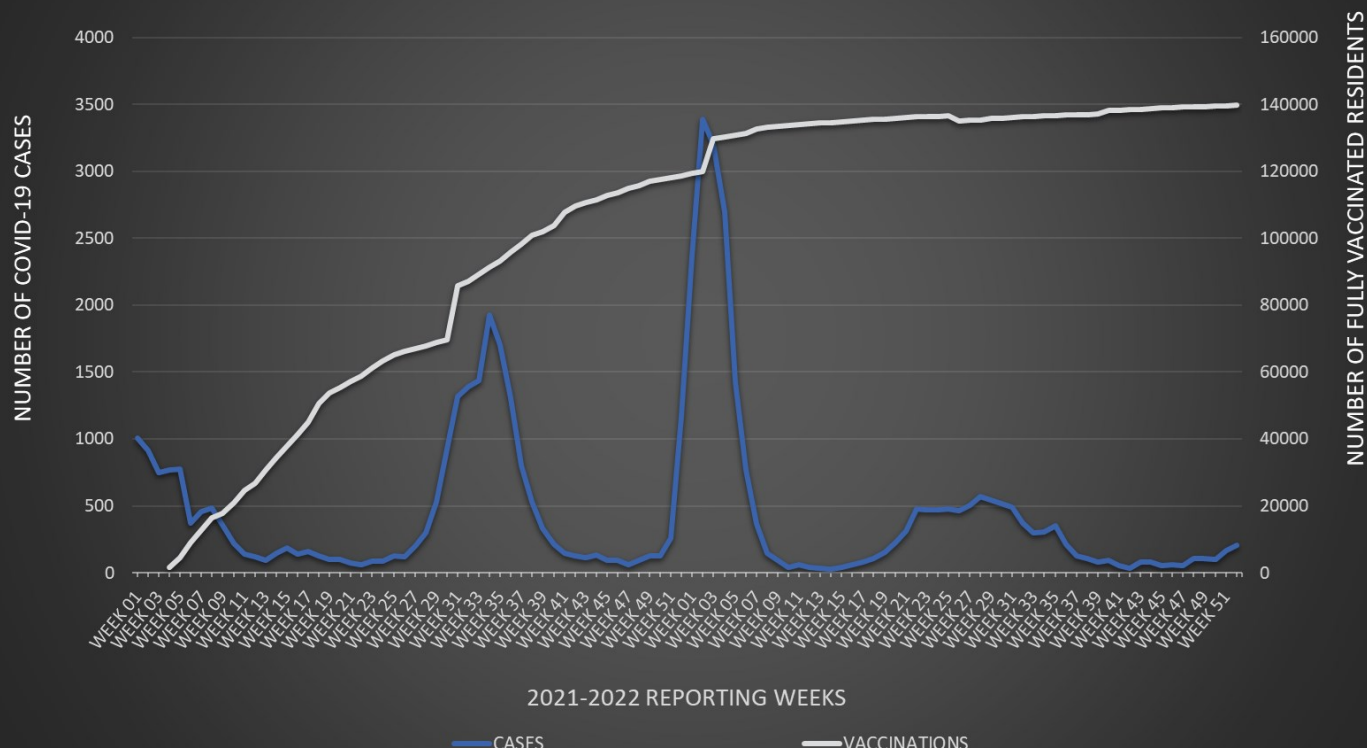


Figure 1: Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.

Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 52 Review		Difference from Wk51
Resident Case Count	203	+34
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	96.3	+16.1
Average Resident Cases per Day	29.0	+4.9
Percent Positivity	17.5%	+2.8

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or NewsMedia@flhealth.gov.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	70.8%	73.0%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.6%	77.2%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.3%	78.7%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	94.0%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 52: December 25 - December 31

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

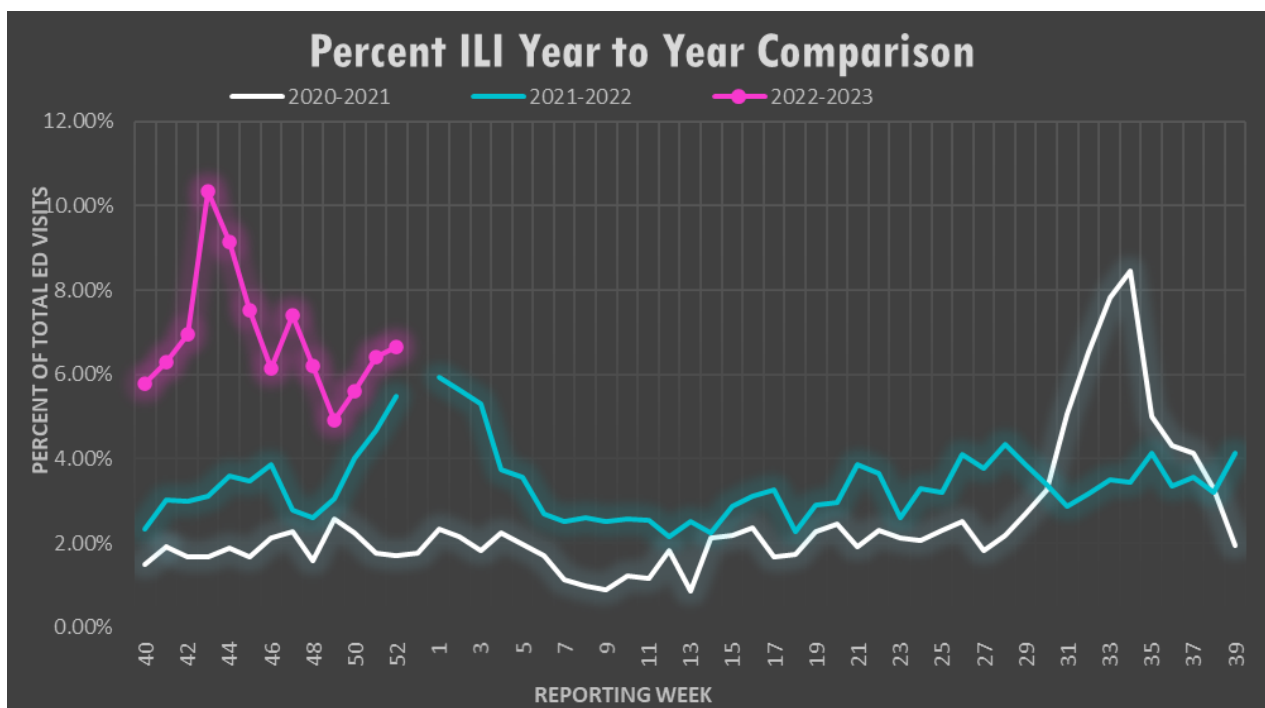


Figure 2: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 52, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported an increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 6.41% during Week 51 to 6.66% during Week 52. Flu partners reported 32 positive rapid flu tests this week (27 Influenza A and 5 Influenza B). Over the past three weeks, 14 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (10 Influenza A H3, 4 Influenza A H1N1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. One outbreak has been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 52 is higher than that of Week 52 last year. *Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 52, 2022

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	34	224	15.18%
5-19	33	292	11.30%
20-34	27	478	5.65%
35-54	38	578	6.57%
55-74	24	595	4.03%
75+	13	368	3.53%

Data Source: ESSENCE

% of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 52, 2022

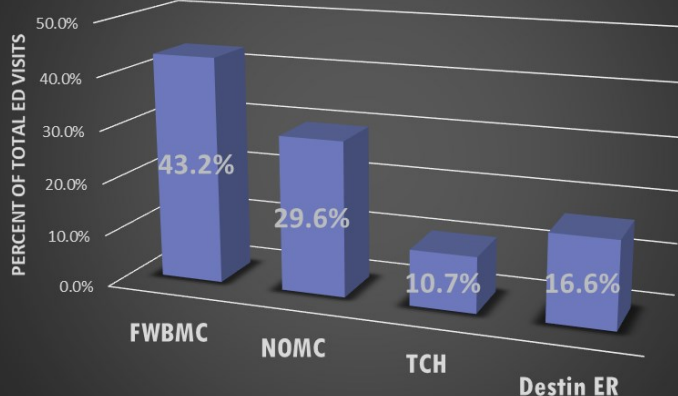


Figure 3: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=169). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

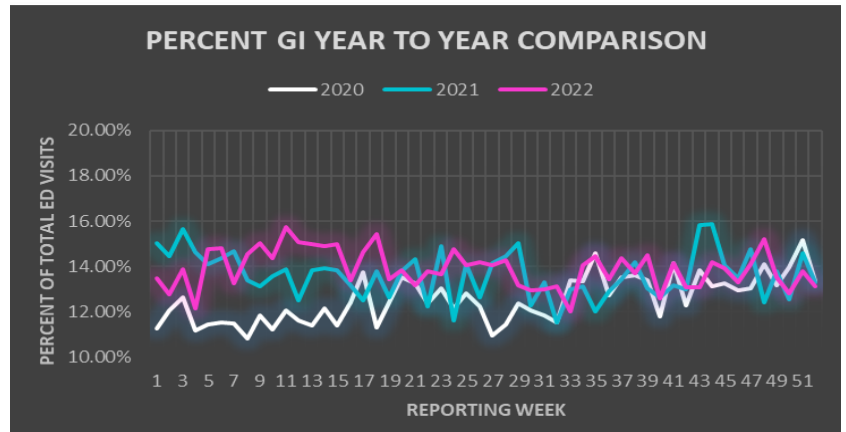
Week 52: December 25- December 31

Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Data Source: ESSENCE

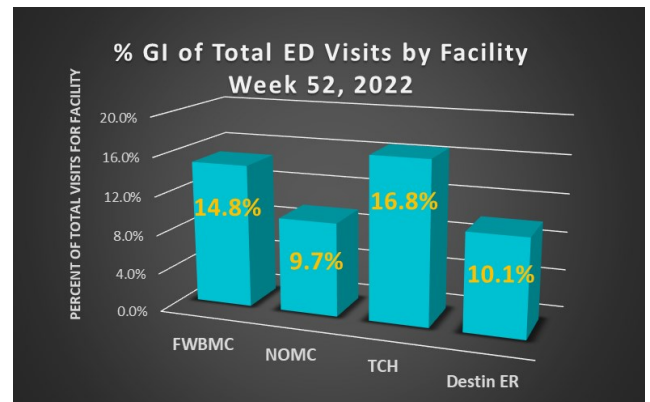


% GI by Age Group Week 52, 2022			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	32	224	14.29%
5-19	51	292	17.47%
20-34	82	478	17.15%
35-54	82	578	14.19%
55-74	52	595	8.74%
75+	34	368	9.24%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

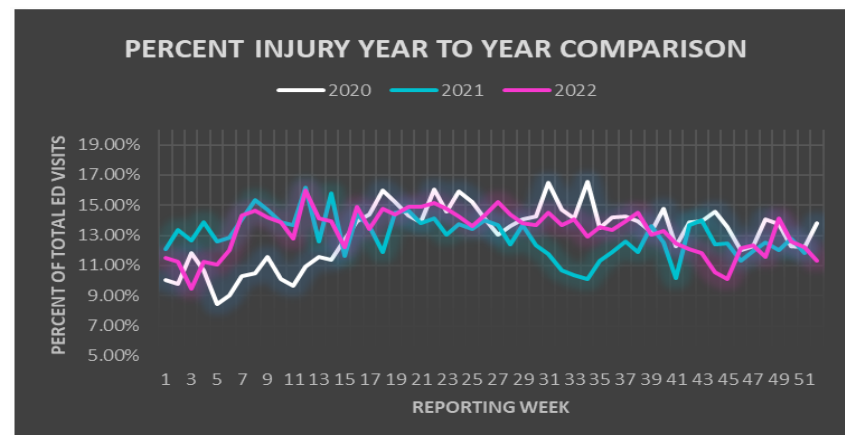


Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Data Source: ESSENCE

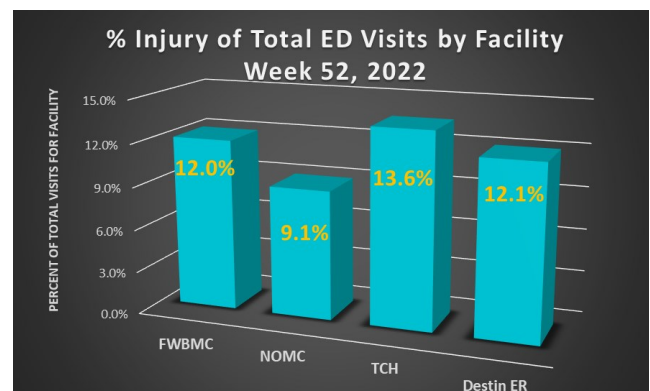


% Injury by Age Group Week 52, 2022			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	13	224	5.80%
5-19	43	292	14.73%
20-34	54	478	11.30%
35-54	61	578	10.55%
55-74	66	595	11.09%
75+	51	368	13.86%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE





Syndromic Surveillance

Week 52: December 25 - December 31

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

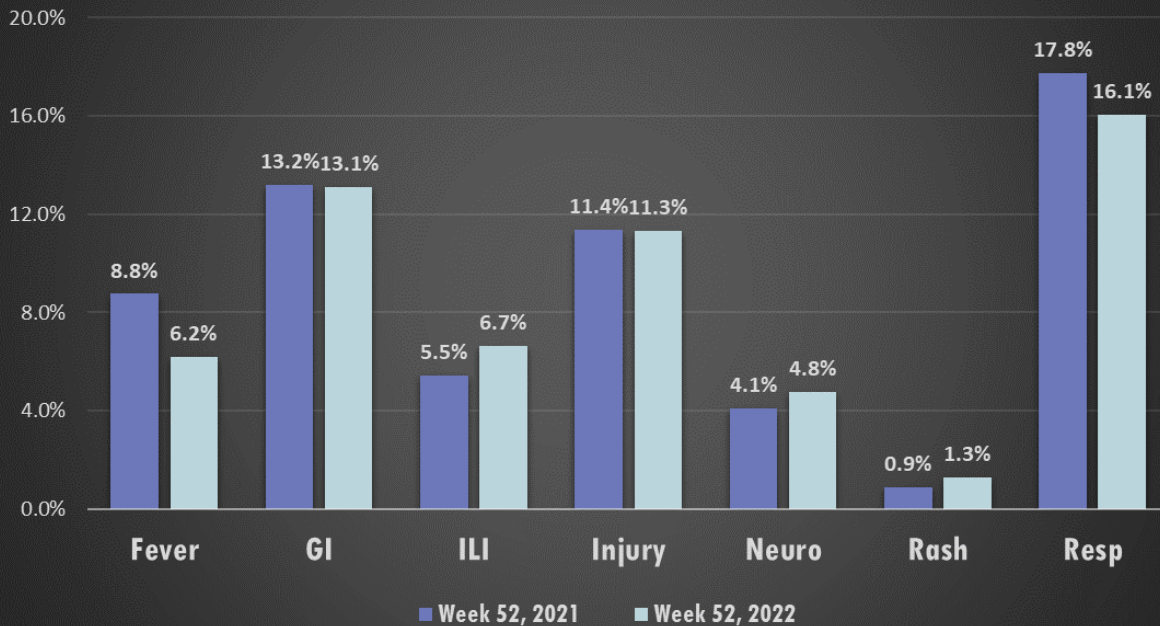
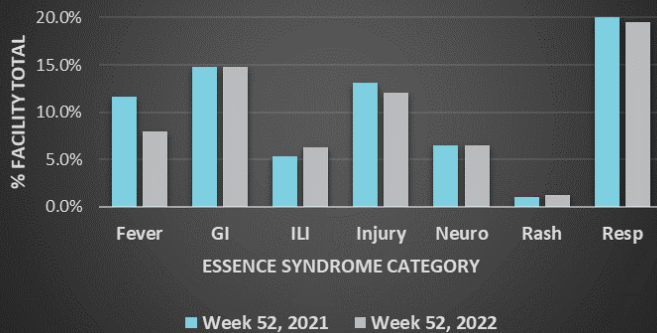


Figure 8: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2022 Week 52 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2539). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%. Data source: ESSENCE

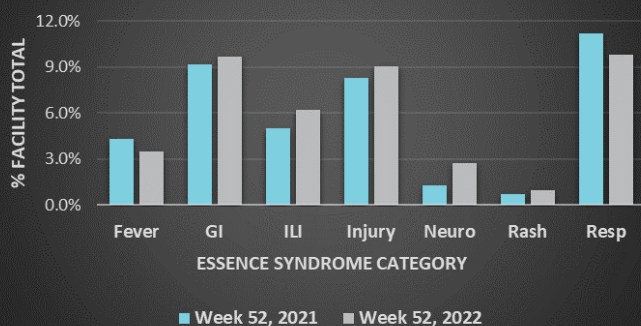
Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 52- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	52
5-19	RESP	34
20-34	GI	40
35-54	RESP	49
55-74	RESP	37
75+	INJURY	29

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 52- North Okaloosa Medical Center

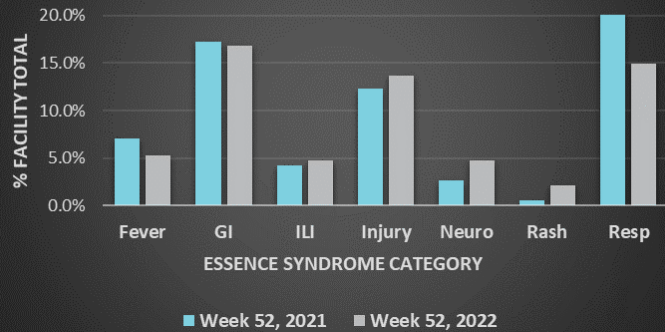
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	GI	9
5-19	GI	14
20-34	GI	18
35-54	RESP	24
55-74	RESP	24
75+	INJURY	11



Syndromic Surveillance

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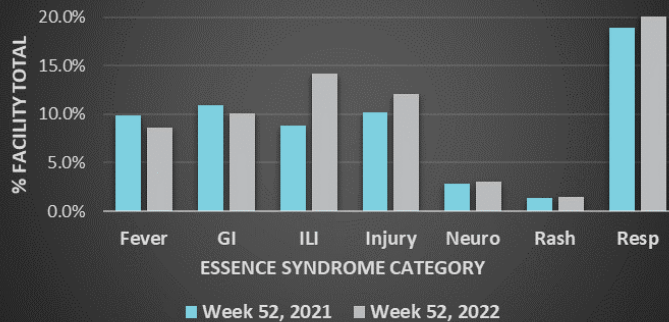
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 52- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER, INJURY, GI, RESP	4, 4, 4, 4
5-19	GI	14
20-34	GI	17
35-54	RESP	15
55-74	GI, INJURY	12, 12
75+	RESP	16

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 52- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	10
5-19	RESP	8
20-34	RESP	8
35-54	INJURY	7
55-74	ILI, INJURY, RESP	8, 8, 8
75+	RESP	7

Week 52—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	RESP
5-19	RESP
20-34	GI
35-54	RESP
55-74	RESP
75+	RESP



Data Source: ESSENCE